

## **My time abroad at the University of Michigan-Flint**

One year ago, I had the chance to spend a semester abroad at the University of Michigan-Flint, which was an amazing experience. I got selected as one of the intern scholars in the English Language Program internship. The ELP offers English classes for international students who need to improve their English first, before they can attend regular classes at the UM-Flint. My job was not only limited to teaching, planning lessons and participating in testing at the ELP. I also tutored students who needed more help or wanted to spend some more time practicing and improving their English skills.

Working in the ELP was great. I got to know so many students from all around the world, which was an enriching experience to me. The staff there was very engaged and included me instantly into their team. We also did some extracurricular activities like a Halloween party, a Thanksgiving celebration and an international week where every student was invited to present something on or about their home countries. During the internship I improved my language and my teaching skills. I learned a lot during my stay and I still benefit from my experiences.

In addition to my internship, I took one class at the UM-Flint, which I very much enjoyed since I also got to know student life in the US. I soon realized that studying in the US is somewhat different than in Germany. The classes are smaller, and you usually meet twice a week. It was a very interesting experience and I was really amazed by the variety of classes, events, sports and clubs the UM-Flint has to offer. It surely was a unique experience.

Most of all, I enjoyed living in the US, to be precise, living on campus and in the state of Michigan. The fall time is beautiful, basically a festival of colors. I also travelled around and explored the state of Michigan. Places like Detroit and Mackinaw are worth a visit. There is also a town called Frankenmuth which is like a little Bavaria. I also attended several events on campus. You never get bored because there are so many things you can do. I took some sports classes and once went to an Ice hockey game of the Flint Firebirds. For any questions or concerns I had I could always go to the International Center. The staff there always made sure that we as internationals were doing fine and were getting along living in the US.

All in all, spending a semester abroad in Flint was the best thing ever. It was an enriching, inspiring and enjoyable experience. I am very grateful that I had this opportunity.

If you are interested to get some more information about my experience, please feel free to contact me. I will be happy to help you.

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## Some Impressions

Flint, Northbank Center on the right where the ELP is located



Flint Farmers' Market in the back



Frankenmuth



Flint, Riverfront Residence Hall

